

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 05579 211159Z

44

ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4321

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL ADANA

AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

AMCONSUL IZMIR

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TAGS: PFOR, TU, CY

SUBJECT: TURKEY COMMEMORATES THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
CYPRUS INTERVENTION

1. IN COMMEMORATION OF THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE
TURKISH INTERVENTION ("PEACE OPERATION") IN CYPRUS, MOST
TURKISH LEADERS RELEASED STATEMENTS JULY 20. PREDICTABLY,
REPUBLICAN PEOPLE'S PARTY (RPP) CHAIRMAN AND FORMER PRIMIN
ECEVIT, THE "HERO" OF THE CYPRUS INTERVENTION, RELEASED
MORE STATEMENTS THAN ANYONE ELSE. IN MESSAGES TO DENKTASH,
TGS CHIEF SANCAR AND IN A STATEMENT TO TURKISH RADIO AND
TELEVISION, ECEVIT CONGRATULATED THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS,
EXPLAINED IN DETAIL THE LEGAL JUSTIFICATION FOR THE TURKISH
INTERVENTION, EXTOLLED THE PERFORMANCE OF THE TURKISH
MILITARY, AND LAMENTED THAT THE WORK THE "PEACE OPERATION"
HAD BEGUN HAD NOT BEEN COMPLETED. HE URGED THE GOVERNMENT
TO TAKE A CONSTRUCTIVE POSITION THAT WOULD FIND FAVOR IN
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 05579 211159Z

WORLD PUBLIC OPINION EVEN IF THE GREEKS SHOULD REJECT IT.

2. TGS CHIEF SANCAR RELEASED A STATEMENT IN WHICH HE SAID TURKS WERE INCREASINGLY CONCERNED THAT DESPITE THE PASSAGE OF TWO YEARS THE PEACE THAT TURKEY HAD WESIRED TO BRING TO THE ISLAND HAD STILL NOT BEEN COMPLETELY ESTABLISHED. HE ALSO PRAISED THE PERFORMANCE OF THE TURKISH MILITARY.

3. THE POTENTIALLY MOST TROUBLESOME STATEMENTS ON THE SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF THE CYPRUS INTERVENTION WERE MADE BY DEPUTY PRIMIN ERBAKAN. ERBAKAN HELD A PRESS CONFERENCE JULY 20 DURING WHICH HE REPORTEDLY MADE SEVERAL PROVOCATIVE STATEMENTS.

--"THERE CAN BE NO QUESTION OF BORDER ADJUSTMENTS IN CYPRUS."

--"IF WE HAD WANTED TO, WE COULD HAVE TAKEN THE WHOLE ISLAND IN THIS OPERATION."

--"OUR ACTIONS IN SETTING DEFINITE BOUNDARIES AND LEAVING FOR THE GREEKS AN AREA IN WHICH THEY COULD LIVE ON THIS ISLAND WHICH HAS BEEN OURS FOR CENTURIES WAS A DEMONSTRATION OF OUR MAGNAMINITY AND LXT5HIS IS CLEAR PROOF THAT THE PURPOSE OF OUR LANDING ON THE ISLAND WAS NOT TO ACQUIRE TERRITORY BUT TO ASSURE PEACE AND SECURITY."

--"IT IS NOT NECESSARY TO ESTABLISH A FEDERAL STATE ON CYPRUS. IT DOES NOT SEEM POSSIBLE TO EXPECT A CHANGE IN THE GREEK ATTITUDE. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE NECESSITY ARISES TO USE THE RIGHT RESERVED BY THE TFSC TO DECLARE INDEPENDENCE. WITH RESPECT TO THIS OUR UPCOMING "REPUBLIC DAY" IS AN IMPORTANT DATE. WE WOULD TAKE PLEASURE IN CELEBRATING THIS HOLIDAY WITH OUR TURKISH CYPRIOT BORTHERS SHOULD CONDITIONS FORCE THEM TO DECLARE INDEPENDENCE."

4. PRESIDENT KORUTURK RESTRICTED HIMSELF TO A SHORT MESSAGE IN MEMORY OF TURKISH SOLDIERS WHO HAD DIED IN THE OPERATION. PRIMIN DEMIREL APPARENTLY MADE NO STATEMENT AT ALL.

5. COMMENT: ERBAKAN'S HARDLINE DECLARATIONS ARE NOT HE FIRST SUCH STATEMENTS HE HAS MADE, BUT THEY ARE IN CONFLICT WITH DEMIREL GOVERNMENT POLICY. NEVERTHELESS, HE IS A DEPUTY PRIMIN (AS HE WAS TWO YEARS AGO) AND HIS COMMENTS WILL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 ANKARA 05579 211159Z

UNDOUBTEDLY CREATE SOME COMMOTION IN ATHENS AND NICOSIA. MOREOVER, THEY WILL STRIKE A RESONANT CHORD IN THE HEARTS OF MANY TURKS WHO LOOK UPON THE CYPRUS INTERVENTION AS A MAJOR VICTORY OF THE TURKISH NATION IN ITS UNENDING STRUGGLE WITH THE GREEKS.
MACOMBER

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